

## **NEAR-NEIGHBOR SEARCH IN PATTERN DISTANCE SPACES**

### **Abstract of the Disclosure**

5           Similarity searching techniques are provided. In one aspect, a method for use in  
finding near-neighbors in a set of objects comprises the following steps. Subspace  
pattern similarities that the objects in the set exhibit in multi-dimensional spaces are  
identified. Subspace correlations are defined between two or more of the objects in the  
set based on the identified subspace pattern similarities for use in identifying  
10 near-neighbor objects. A pattern distance index may be created. A method of performing  
a near-neighbor search of one or more query objects against a set of objects is also  
provided.